

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-identified application.

**Listing of Claims**

1.     **(Currently amended)** A computer-implemented method for the estimation of mean production for assemble-to-order manufacturing operations, the method comprising the steps of:  
receiving an identification of one or more products to be analyzed;  
receiving data describing components required to produce the products;  
determining a feasible region, the feasible region comprising conditions where a supply of the components meets a demand for the products;  
determining an infeasible region, the infeasible region comprising conditions where a supply of the components fails to meet a demand for the **products**;  
[[production;]]  
formulating a sum of multidimensional integrals corresponding to the estimation of mean production for the products; **and**  
evaluating the sum of multidimensional integrals, **wherein the sum is used for the estimation of mean production for the products.** ~~displaying the sum of the multidimensional integrals, wherein the sum of the multidimensional integrals is used for the estimation of mean production for the products.~~
2.     **(Canceled)**

3. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1 that further comprises the steps of:  
determining a feasible region  $\Omega$  and an infeasible region  $\bar{\Omega}$ , the feasible including all  
points where the demand for the specified products can be met with the current  
levels of the components required to produce the specified product, the infeasible  
region including all points where the demand for the specified products cannot be  
met with the current levels of the components required to produce the specified  
product; and  
presenting the result of the evaluating step to a user.
4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 3 that further comprises the step of formulating  
respective production policies  $q(x)$  for the feasible region and the infeasible region.
5. (Original) A method as recited in claim 4 wherein the production policy for the feasible  
region is  $q(x) = x$  and the production policy for the infeasible region is the uniform production  
policy.
6. (Original) A method as recited in claim 4 wherein the production policy for the feasible  
region is  $q(x) = x$  and the production policy for the infeasible region is the local u-production  
policy.

7. **(Currently amended)** A data storage medium having machine-readable code stored thereon, the machine-readable code comprising instructions executable by an array of logic elements, the instructions defining a method comprising the steps of:

receiving an identification of one or more products to be analyzed;  
receiving data describing components required to produce the products;  
determining a feasible region, the feasible region comprising conditions where a supply of the components meets a demand for the products;  
determining an infeasible region, the infeasible region comprising conditions where a supply of the components fails to meet a demand for the products;  
formulating a sum of multidimensional integrals corresponding to ~~an~~ **the** estimation of mean production for the products; **and**  
evaluating the sum of multidimensional integrals, **wherein the sum is used for the estimation of mean production for the products.** ~~displaying the sum of the multidimensional integrals, wherein the sum of the multidimensional integrals is used for the estimation of mean production for the products.~~

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously presented) A data storage medium as recited in claim 7 wherein the method further comprises the steps of:

determining a feasible region  $\Omega$  and an infeasible region  $\bar{\Omega}$ , the feasible including all points where the demand for the specified products can be met with the current levels of the components required to produce the specified product, the infeasible region including all points where the demand for the specified products cannot be met with the current levels of the components required to produce the specified product; and  
presenting the result of the evaluating step to a user.

10. (Original) A data storage medium as recited in claim 9 wherein the method further comprises the step of formulating respective production policies  $q(x)$  for the feasible region and the infeasible region.

11. (Original) A data storage medium as recited in claim 10 wherein the production policy for the feasible region is  $q(x) = x$  and the production policy for the infeasible region is the uniform production policy.
12. (Original) A data storage medium as recited in claim 10 wherein the production policy for the feasible region is  $q(x) = x$  and the production policy for the infeasible region is the local u-production policy.
13. (**Currently amended**) A system for the estimation of mean production for assemble-to-order manufacturing operations, the system comprising: method comprising the steps of:  
means for receiving an identification of one or more products to be analyzed;  
means for receiving data describing components required to produce the products;  
means for determining a feasible region, the feasible region comprising conditions where a supply of the components meets a demand for the products;  
means for determining an infeasible region, the infeasible region comprising conditions where a supply of the components fails to meet a demand for the products;  
[[production;]]  
means for formulating a sum of multidimensional integrals corresponding to the estimation of mean production for the products; and  
means for evaluating the sum of multidimensional integrals, wherein the sum is used for the estimation of mean production for the products. ~~displaying the sum of the multidimensional integrals, wherein the sum of multidimensional integrals is used for the estimation of mean production for the products.~~
14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 13 that further comprises:  
means for determining a feasible region  $\Omega$  and an infeasible region  $\overline{\Omega}$ , the feasible  
including all points where the demand for the specified products can be met with  
the current levels of the components required to produce the specified product, the  
infeasible region including all points where the demand for the specified products  
cannot be met with the current levels of the components required to produce the  
specified product; and  
means for presenting the result of the evaluating step to a user.
16. (Original) A system as recited in claim 15 that further comprises means for formulating  
respective production policies  $q(x)$  for the feasible region and the infeasible region.
17. (Original) A system as recited in claim 15 wherein the production policy for the feasible  
region is  $q(x) = x$  and the production policy for the infeasible region is the uniform production  
policy.
18. (Original) A system as recited in claim 15 wherein the production policy for the feasible  
region is  $q(x) = x$  and the production policy for the infeasible region is the local u-production  
policy.
- 19-24. (Not entered)
25. (Canceled)
26. (**Currently amended**) A method as recited in claim 1 [[25]], wherein the  
multidimensional integrals comprise a multidimensional integral over the feasible region and a  
multidimensional integral over the infeasible region.
27. (Canceled)

28. **(Currently amended)** A data storage medium as recited in claim 7 [[27]] wherein the multidimensional integrals comprise a multidimensional integral over the feasible region and a multidimensional integral over the infeasible region.

29. (Canceled)

30. **(Currently amended)** A system as recited in claim 13 [[29]], wherein the multidimensional integrals comprise a multidimensional integral over the feasible region and a multidimensional integral over the infeasible region.